

The John Doe Times  
Volume VI  
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JAMES VIEFHAUS/CAROL HOWE TRIAL EDITION

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\*\*J.D. CASH TRIAL COVERAGE OF VIEFHAUS-HOWE.

\*\*THE UNSEALED APRIL 24 PRE-TRIAL HEARING TRANSCRIPT. (SOON TO BE POSTED ON THE JOHN DOE TIMES WEBSITE).

\*\*J.D. CASH & LOIS (MRS. FEDERAL JUDGE) ROMANO OF THE WASHINGTON POST READ THE SAME TRANSCRIPT. HOW COULD THEY COME TO SUCH DIFFERENT CONCLUSIONS? (HINT: ONE KNOWS WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING AT AND THE OTHER DOESN'T, PERHAPS?)

\*\*"DARTH VADER" COMES TO TULSA: FBI SENDS HEAD OF DOMESTIC TERRORISM UNIT TO VIEFHAUS/HOWE TRIAL. DO THEY ATTACH ANY IMPORTANCE TO THIS, OR WHAT?

\*\* AMBROSE'S REPLACEMENT AT THE LONDON TELEGRAPH ON CAROL HOWE TRIAL.

\*\* FBI ADMITS SOURCE OF "THREAT" WAS "MOST HIGH PROPHET" WILLIE RAY "CIRCUMSIZED DOG" LAMPLEY.....SINCE MAHON WAS THE ONE WHO PASSED LAMPLEY'S LETTER ON TO HOWE/VIEFHAUS, WHY WASN'T HE INDICTED TOO, HMMM? ANOTHER FRIENDLY RENT-A-NAZI?

\*\*AND NOW, A CAROL HOWE FANCLUB WEBSITE!!!

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The John Doe Times is an on-line, electronic newsletter devoted to the Oklahoma City bombing conspiracy and coverup. It is published episodically (if not epileptically) by the First Alabama Cavalry Regiment (Constitutional Militia) and friends. Send email to Mo10Cav@aol.com. Send snail mail and letter bombs to P.O. Box 926, Pinson, AL 35126. Our motto: Sic Semper Rodentia.

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From the Editor:

Well, things are moving fast toward the lawyerly "Gunfight at The 'Old Fed Corral'" between Clark O. Brewster, Carol Howe's Palladin, and the Federale Gang of Prosecutors, Snitches, and ATF Thugs.

As an indicator of how seriously the Feds take the little two-bit bomb threat trial of Mr. Viefhaus, they sent in "Darth Vader", the head of the Domestic Terrorism Section of the FBI, to testify. Is there something more important here than they are letting on?

Interesting early testimony in the Viefhaus trial indicates that as was reported earlier by J.D. Cash, the "bomb threat" was a message from imprisoned convicted bomber Ray Lampley ("Most High Self-Proclaimed Prophet" who once called me an "uncircumsized dog"-- leading me to defend myself by pointing out that in Alabama we did not feel the need to circumcize our hounds, much to their relief).

The Feds now must explain why it is that they felt necessary to raid and arrest Viefhaus (and much later, Howe) when it was Dennis Mahon who gave them the message from Lampley in the first place. Would Mahon not also be part of the "conspiracy"? (If such a thinly-evidenced collection of circumstances can be called a "conspiracy to bomb".) Yet Mahon once again seems to lead a charmed life as the "Teflon Bomber". Is it "Rent-A-Nazi" time again at the "Old Fed Corral"?

While we will be posting the recently unsealed April 24 hearing referred to below in stories from the McCurtain Gazette and Washington Post, we think it instructive that Mr. Cash and Ms. Romano (who is married to a Federal judge) could come to such different conclusions after reading the same material.

Finally, please be advised that there is a new Carol Howe Fan Club website at: <http://www.ionet.net/~michaelr/carol.htm>. It's GREAT!! We've linked it in from the JDT website. Any fans wishing to send email fanmail to Carol may do so by sending it to us, here at JDT, and we will forward it on to Carol. Just mark it: CAROL HOWE FAN MAIL in the header. Send to Mo10Cav@aol.com.

-- Mike Vanderboegh, 1ACR  
Editor, The John Doe Times

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McCurtain (Idabel, Oklahoma) Gazette, 22 July 1997

UNSEALED DOCUMENTS RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT BOMBING

By J. D. Cash

Tulsa-- Documents recently unsealed in a federal criminal case here involving former Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms "paid informant" Carol E. Howe raise more serious questions about the government's investigation of the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building.

They suggest the federal agency had advance warning of an impending attack on a federal building in Oklahoma City.

Those explosive remarks are contained in a recently unsealed 70-page transcript of an April 24 pre-trial hearing on the upcoming trials of Howe and James Dodson Viefhaus, Howe's former Tulsa housemate.

Howe and Viefhaus face charges of placing a message on their answering machine last December alleged to contain a bomb threat.

The couple are charged with possessing components that could be used to build a bomb.

At the hearing on April 24, Howe attorney Clark Brewster was seeking an order from Federal District Judge Michael Burrage to release Howe's BATF reports and other investigative materials related to her undercover work for the government.

At that late April closed session, which occurred just as the Denver trial of Timothy McVeigh was beginning, Brewster questioned Howe's BATF "handler" Angela Graham (formerly Finley).

He focused not only on Howe's work for the agency but her undercover project involving Andreas Strassmeir, Dennis Mahon and Elohim City.

"Now, you were interested in knowing as much as you could about Mr. Strassmeir, weren't you?" asked Brewster.

"Yes," replied Graham.

"What kind of guns he had?"

"Yes."

"And," Brewster asked, "the kind of threats he made about wanting to blow up federal buildings? You were interested in that, weren't you?"

"I was interested in anything I could find out about any violation," Graham responded.

"And Ms. Howe told you about Mr. Strassmeir's threats to blow up federal buildings, didn't she?"

"In general, yes."

"And that was before the Oklahoma City bombing?"

"Yes."

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Public suspicions of a connection between Elohim City and the Oklahoma City bombing first surfaced in late May 1995, when the national media descended on the 1,000 acre compound soon after it was learned that someone using a phone calling card linked to Timothy McVeigh had made a call there only two weeks prior to the attack on the federal building.

Initially, the cult's religious leader said he had no knowledge of such a call and did not know anything about McVeigh before his arrest.

Later, the Gazette disclosed that the call was made by Timothy McVeigh and that the call was to Elohim City's "security advisor", Andreas Strassmeir.

The Gazette also reported that the call to Elohim City was made only seconds after the same phone records show a call made to a Ryder truck rental establishment in Arizona.

A resident of Elohim City, Joan Millar, subsequently admitted to the FBI that the call was, indeed, for Andreas Strassmeir. Millar told an investigator for McVeigh that the caller said, "Tell Andy I'll be visiting soon."

Strassmeir subsequently denied he ever got the call. He denied knowing why McVeigh would call him.

On Dec. 13, 1996, the Howe-Dodson residence was raided by the FBI and Viefhaus was charged. Months later, after several news organizations followed up on a Gazette story that Howe as a BATF informant and had warned of a plan to bomb federal buildings by residents and visitors to Elohim City, she was also charged with Viefhaus.

Not only was Carol Howe an undercover agent for the ATF at Elohim City, providing information about talk of bombing federal buildings, but she also took a trip to Oklahoma City, the April 24 pre-trial hearing transcript discloses.

Brewster pursued this angle with Graham, Howe's ATF handler.

"She called you before and said, 'These folks from Elohim City want to go over and look at Oklahoma City.'"

Graham's response? "She had specific places they were going. It did not include the federal building."

Brewster, apparently dissatisfied with Graham's response, later hammered at the ATF handler with this line of questioning:

"And this was the place that Mr. Strassmeir was living, Elohim City?"

"Yes."

"And this is the gentleman that she told you about that had intentions to blow up federal buildings?"

Graham tried to downplay the line of questioning, claiming it was common militia rhetoric. "Everyone out there is saying that same thing."

But Graham was forced to acknowledge that Tulsan Dennis Mahon, a White Aryan Resistance (WAR) leader, had been a focal point in the BATF investigation at Elohim City.

"What were the nature of the offenses you were investigating?" Brewster asked.

"Anything from explosives to illegal firearms."

"How long did that investigation go on?"

Graham replied, "I believe I closed my investigation - technically to say - when the property of the investigation actually stopped, we stopped doing anything with that after I had her deactivated as an informant." (Three weeks before the Oklahoma City bombing).

(The timing of the BATF's investigation into WAR and Elohim City coincides with the date the federal grand jury investigating the Oklahoma City bombing said the conspiracy began - Sept. 13, 1994. The Gazette had previously reported McVeigh

checked into a motel room in Vian on the evening of September 12. Vian is approximately a 30-minute drive west of Elohim City.)

Immediately after the April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City bombing, Graham said she reactivated Howe and sent her back to Elohim City.

But first the Tulsa BATF agent asked her to find Dennis Mahon, the transcript shows.

"First of all," Brewster asked, "you had her come to the Tulsa office and call Dennis Mahon and tape it, didn't you?"

Graham told the court, "I think we called from Oklahoma City."

Queried Brewster: "That's because you immediately suspected that Mr. Mahon had involvement in the Oklahoma city bombing, didn't you?"

"We wanted to see where he was, and that's all based on what the FBI wanted to do with her," Graham said.

Referring to the racist novel *The Turner Diaries* that McVeigh sold at gun shows and that prosecutors repeatedly told the Denver jury was the blueprint for the Oklahoma City bombing, Brewster questioned agent Graham on the book as a vehicle of warning to the feds.

Graham conceded Howe brought her a copy of the novel and said, "Make sure you read this."

Curiously, despite the evidence and statements to the BATF and FBI, neither Mahon nor Strassmeir was ever picked up for questioning in connection with the bombing.

And, as the April 24 transcript reflects, every attempt was made to keep such information secret prior to the Denver trial of McVeigh.

At the end of the April hearing, for example, Judge Burrage said to Brewster that a "lot of this makes for good conversation... and it makes for sensationalism" but that he didn't think "it really has anything to do with the Oklahoma City bombing..."

"With that McVeigh trial going on, I don't want anything getting out of here that would compromise that trial in any way," the federal judge said, sealing the transcript.

"What do you mean by compromise?" Brewster asked. "Do you mean share with the McVeigh defense?"

"Yes," replied Burrage, "or something that would come up - you know, we have got evidence that the ATF took a trip with somebody that said buildings were going to be blown up in Oklahoma City before it was blown up or something of that nature and try to connect it to McVeigh in some way or something."

Eventually, of course, Carol Howe's testimony at the McVeigh trial was blocked by the Denver trial judge, Richard P. Matsch.

And that decision has since become the focus of McVeigh's appeal for a new trial.

James Veifhaus' trial begins today and is expected to finish by the weekend.

Next week, the long-anticipated trial of Carol Howe is scheduled to begin.

It is expected the government will argue to keep anything regarding the Oklahoma City bombing from coming up in that trial, as well.

Evidencing this, last week, prosecutors asked Judge Burrage to block Howe's attorneys from calling Agent Graham or her supervisor to the stand, claiming "Treasury Department employees are prohibited by law from testifying or otherwise furnishing information obtained as a result of their official capacities."

The trial judge has yet to rule on the motion. But Burrage has indicated a reluctance to allow evidence Howe collected in the Oklahoma City bombing investigation into her upcoming trial.

However, sources close to the grand jury in Oklahoma City say they will subpoena Howe after her trial in Tulsa is over.

(END OF McCurtain Gazette STORY.)

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Washington Post Reads Same April 24 Transcript, But Writes A Different Story...

(It Helps To Know What You're Writing About...)

WASHINGTON POST

July 23, 1997

McVeigh's Lawyers Keeping Eye On Bomb Threat Trial In Tulsa

By Lois Romano, Washington Post Staff Writer

Tulsa, July 22-- Until her arrest this spring for threatening to bomb federal buildings, Carol Howe was known here as a troubled debutante from a prominent family who fell in with a bad crowd and had a swastika tattooed on her arm.

But since then, she has become a cause celebre for lawyers of convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy J. McVeigh and far-right conspiracy theorists, who claim that prior to the 1995 Oklahoma City blast, Howe had warned authorities that others were talking about blowing up federal buildings. What has made her case particularly intriguing is the fact that Howe was an informer for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

On Monday, Howe, 26, is scheduled to go on trial in federal court here, and her relationship with the federal government has become the centerpiece of her defense.

Her live-in boyfriend, James Viehhaus, who is on trial this week, was indicted last December on identical charges. But because the government waited three months after that to indict Howe, her attorneys claim she was only charged to silence her on the eve of McVeigh's trial. McVeigh was condemned to death last month for truck-bombing the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, which killed 168 people.

Prosecutors counter that the Oklahoma City attack has no bearing on the charges against Howe and have asked U.S. District Judge Michael Burrage to bar all references to it at her trial. Both sides declined to comment today because a "gag" order is in place.

But in a pre-trial hearing last week, Howe's attorney told Burrage that Howe had reported to the ATF "dangerous, apocalyptic statements" by white separatists living at Elohim City, a compound in eastern Oklahoma.

Furthermore, Clark O. Brewster said that incriminating evidence found at Howe's home was related to her duties as a federal informer, not a federal lawbreaker. She was so concerned about the bomb threats that she had reported, Brewster asserted, that Howe began collecting photographs of potential targets, such as various federal buildings in Tulsa.

Whatever Burrage decides, Howe's trial promises to be good theatre. Brewster said that Howe will likely testify in her own defense. A petite, well-dressed blonde, Howe looks more like the debutante she once was than a racist terrorist. She attended a local Christian high school. Her father, Robert, is the former president of MAPCO, Inc., a Fortune 500 energy company here, and her mother, Aubyn, is a well-known socialite



and civic activist. Howe was released on bond to her parents immediately after her arrest and fitted with an electronic monitoring device; Viefhaus was denied bond.

Those who know her family say that Howe had long been rebellious. Those who met her later said she seemed to be searching for something.

"I think she was looking for excitement," said Dennis Mahon, a self-described racist from Tulsa and one-time Howe friend, who is among those with whom Howe traveled to Elohim City. Mahon has denied talking of bombing federal buildings.

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JDT Commentary: a.) Regarding Ms. Romano's characterization of the Howe-Mahon relationship, please read the London Telegraph story below. It is more accurate by far than the benign brush-off Ms. Romano gives it here. b.)

To uncritically repeat Mahon's assertion that he never talked of bombing federal buildings is preposterous--- this is the same guy who on nationwide TV, and widely repeated in the print media, said that it was his fondest wish to drive a nuclear bomb to Washington, D.C. and detonate it while sitting on top of it!! If this is not "talk of bombing federal buildings" I'm not sure what is!

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Mahon said that he first met Howe in 1993 when she wrote him to say that she was interested in the white supremacist group in which Mahon has been active. By August, 1994, however, Howe was reporting to the ATF about Mahon's activities. It is unclear when-- or even if-- she went from sympathizer to informer.

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JDT Commentary: WHAT A CROCK!! Angela (Finley) Graham has previously testified when and where Carol Howe was recruited. There are documents which Ms. Romano has access to, should she wish to avail herself of them, that spell out exactly what happened. Not to mention that J.D. Cash has reported same. It is obvious that Ms. Romano does not read the John Doe Times.

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An ATF agent has testified that she terminated Howe in 1995 because Howe was associating with skinheads and appeared to be mentally unstable.

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JDT Commentary: C.O.S. Alert!!! (C.O.S. = Crock of Shit). The ATF "terminated" her, but then sent her back into Elohim City right after the bombing!?!? Also, correct me if I'm wrong, but associating with skinheads would normally be something that ATF would want their informants to do. As far as "mentally unstable", this is the same woman who passed their damned polygraphs with flying colors. In any case, the standard by which a thuggish agency like the ATF would judge someone else's "mental stability" might be a tad suspect. I mean, these are the guys that brought us Randy Weaver and Waco, right?

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Howe's story generated national attention this spring when the federal judge in McVeigh's trial refused to allow her to testify and raise the specter that others were involved in the Oklahoma City bombing. McVeigh's lawyers since have cited U.S. District Judge Richard P. Matsch's decision in their appeal for a new trial.

Federal prosecutors in the McVeigh case have said privately that Howe never reported useful specific information in advance of the Oklahoma City bombing. The ATF claims that Howe initially was an active agent for about seven months, until March, 1995, one month before the bombing. Her ATF handler, Angela Graham, confirmed during a pretrial hearing that during that time Howe did tell her "in general" that certain Elohim City residents spoke of bombing buildings.

According to the transcript of the closed hearing unsealed last week, Graham said that Howe contacted her the day after the April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City blast to say that she thought she could identify the elusive John Doe #2. Graham said that Howe then was "reactivated" as an informer. Graham also acknowledged that although the ATF had little contact with Howe after the summer of 1995, she remained an active source in the agency files.

As Howe's case plays out here, 100 miles away in Oklahoma City, a new grand jury this month began reinvestigating the bombing. The state grand jury, in recess until August 11, has interviewed at least 10 witnesses, several of whom claim to have seen another man with McVeigh the day of the bombing. The grand jury came about after a petition drive led by State Rep. Charles Key, who believes McVeigh and co-defendant Terry L. Nichols had accomplices. Nichols goes on trial in federal court this fall.

(END OF WASHINGTON POST STORY)

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Electronic Telegraph  
Sunday 20 July 1997  
Issue 786

## Informant Accuses FBI Over Oklahoma Bomb

By Ivo Dawney in Washington

GAPING cracks are opening in the US Justice Department's claim that the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing was the exclusive work of the convicted bomber Timothy McVeigh and his alleged co-conspirator, Terry Nichols, who is still awaiting trial.

A month after McVeigh, a 29-year-old former soldier, was unanimously sentenced to die by a Denver jury, most Americans would prefer to forget the horrendous deaths of 168 men, women and children in what was the worst act of domestic terrorism in the country's history.

However, in Oklahoma itself, especially among many of the victims' families, the clamour is growing for further inquiries into a wider conspiracy. Many believe that the authorities are suppressing the truth.

In a case due to open next week in Tulsa, jurors will hear fresh evidence that US security agencies had ample forewarning of an attack on a federal target, possibly Oklahoma City's Murrah building. The testimony will come from Carol Howe, 28, daughter of a wealthy Tulsan, who acted for two-and-a-half years as an undercover informant for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). In the McVeigh trial it was disallowed as irrelevant by Judge Richard Matsch.

Now Howe, an avowed white separatist, is facing charges, including conspiracy to make threats and possession of a bomb, that her defenders claim were brought to intimidate her.

Those who believe her claims had expected that the charges might subsequently be dropped in return for her silence. However, Howe's version of events - while still all but unreported in the mainstream media - is now on the public record in appeal documents submitted by McVeigh's lawyer, Stephen Jones.

Her story, backed up by plentiful documentary evidence, is simple. A victim of an assault by three black youths, she drifted towards the white racist movement where she met Denis Mahon, a leader of the so-called White Aryan Resistance group, linked to an Oklahoma commune of extremists called Elohim City.

After allegedly being sexually assaulted by Mahon, she filed an Emergency Protective Order against him, thereby alerting the interest of the ATF. Approached by ATF agent Angela Finley, she agreed to act as an informant. Her numerous reports included warnings that some at the commune planned to bomb a federal building.

According to Mr Jones's appeal submission, Agent Finley's handwritten notes confirm a report from Howe that Mahon had bomb-making expertise. He had told her he had exploded a 500lb ammonium nitrate bomb in Michigan five years earlier.

Howe also reported that Mahon, together with another Elohim resident, the German-born "head of security" Andreas Strassmeir, had taken three trips to "case" Oklahoma City.

Prosecution attorneys have cast doubt on Howe's credibility. They point to her undisputed white separatist sympathies and that she once sought psychiatric help.

Nevertheless, there is plenty of evidence that Howe's reports were taken extremely seriously by the ATF. Mr Jones's defence appeal also points out that she was immediately rehired by the ATF in the wake of the Oklahoma bomb and sent back to Elohim City to gather more information. She continued to be on the payroll until December last year.

Charges were brought against her last March after she and her fiance, Jim Viefhaus, were said to have recorded an alleged bomb threat on a telephone "newsline" and to have been in possession of a bomb. Her defence is expected to claim that the taped threat was the work of Viefhaus, which she had opposed, and that the bomb equipment was part of her "cover".

What is most worrying for prosecuting attorneys is that Howe claims little knowledge of Tim McVeigh. Instead she identified from descriptions several other Elohim figures, including Mahon, Strassmeir and a bank robber, Michael Brescia, as likely bombers. But to date, although the FBI is said to have spoken to more than 20,000 individuals in America's most extensive criminal inquiry, Mahon has yet to be interviewed. Strassmeir, another suspect named by Howe, has been only cursorily interviewed in Germany by telephone.

That has prompted further speculation that the murky world of Elohim City was a nest of undercover agents and agents provocateurs, many of whom were working for the authorities - possibly on different inquiries.

A theory shared by believers in a wider conspiracy is that the government is covering up a bungled "sting" operation that may have involved a squabble over jurisdiction between the FBI and the ATF.

At least one civil suit brought by victims' families centres on claims that it was a failure by federal agencies to act swiftly that led to the bombing. Evidence to support that case emerged at pre-trial hearings into the Howe case on June 30. Local reporters claimed "near pandemonium" in the Tulsa courtroom when an FBI agent revealed that a leading figure in Elohim City was an FBI informant.

The revelation, made under cross-examination, was that "the Reverend" Robert Millar, the community's rabble-rousing spiritual leader, had collaborated closely with federal agents.

Meanwhile last week new hearings by a grand jury in Oklahoma City convened to look into the possibility of a wider conspiracy, heard damaging testimony from two eyewitnesses.

They claimed to have seen McVeigh on the morning of the bombing accompanied by as many as three other possible suspects. Their evidence was not heard in the McVeigh trial as they were not called by either the prosecution or the defence.

That Stephen Jones failed to call them is understandable as they would have implicated his client in the crime. That the prosecution failed to do so only reinforces the view that there was an as yet unexplained desire on the part of the US attorneys' office to keep the number of suspects to a minimum.

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## CAROL HOWE TRIAL COVERAGE CONTINUES.....

Tulsa World

23 July 1997

FBI Agent: Tape Referred To Conspirator

By David Harper World Staff Writer

7/23/97

Convicted bomb conspirator Willie Ray Lampley allegedly is alluded to on James Viefhaus' answering machine message.

An FBI agent testified Tuesday that convicted bomb conspirator Willie Ray Lampley is the "high ranking revolutionary commander" whose perceived threat was relayed on a Tulsa answering machine last December.

The statement, repeated by Tulsan James Dodson Viefhaus Jr. on a Tulsa racist hot line, led to Viefhaus and former ATF informant Carol Howe being named in a three-count federal indictment in March.

Viefhaus and Howe are charged with conspiracy, willfully making a bomb threat and possessing a nonregistered destructive device. The latter charge stems from an assertion by prosecutors that Viefhaus and Howe had items that could have been made into a pipe bomb at the house they shared in east Tulsa during the last half of 1996. These elements were found when authorities executed a search warrant at the house after tracing the answering machine message to the residence.

FBI agent Pete Rickel testified Tuesday during the first day of testimony in Viefhaus' trial. Viefhaus and Howe are being tried separately in the Tulsa courtroom of U.S. District Judge Michael Burrage. Howe's trial is scheduled to start after Viefhaus' ends.

Under cross-examination by Viefhaus' attorney, Craig Bryant, Rickel said that based on his investigation, he believes that Lampley was the source of the Dec. 8 answering machine passage that government officials view as a bomb threat.

The message stated in part that "a letter from a high-ranking revolutionary commander has been written and received demanding that action be taken by all white warriors by Dec. 15, 1996, and if this action is not taken, bombs will be activated in 15 preselected major U.S. cities."

Before Tuesday, there was no indication in court proceedings or documents as to whether a "high-ranking commander" or letter actually existed or if instead the wording on the Viefhaus tape was just an attempt to avoid culpability if the message should be intercepted and deemed criminal by authorities.

Bryant and Howe's attorney, Clark O. Brewster, have repeatedly stated that the message is not a bomb threat for a variety of reasons, including an assertion that the "threat" was merely the recounting of the contents of a letter written by someone else. Still, that argument seemed weakened without the identity of the "commander" pinned down.

Lampley was convicted in federal court in Muskogee last year for conspiring to blow up buildings, including abortion clinics, gay bars and the offices of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., and the Department of Human Services.

Lampley was handed an 11 1/2-year prison term. He has been subpoenaed to travel from a federal prison in Illinois to testify in the trials of Viefhaus and Howe.

However, Rickel said what Lampley "communicated" was not exactly as the message was worded on the Viefhaus tape.

Bryant told the court Tuesday that, in presenting the case for Viefhaus, he does not intend to discuss Howe's warning to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms that threats against federal buildings had come from Elohim City in advance of the April 19, 1995, bombing of Oklahoma City's Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Elohim City is a white-separatist compound in far-eastern Oklahoma.

Prosecutors had asked Burrage for a ruling that would prohibit any references to Howe's warning from being introduced as evidence.

While not mentioning the bombing specifically, Bryant did say during his opening statement that Howe was a government informant before and after the date of the bombing. No one has maintained that Viefhaus was an informant. Just when Viefhaus found out that Howe was an informant still has not been addressed in the case.

The Oklahoma City issue was nearly raised again during Rickel's testimony, although the jury never knew it. Bryant asked Rickel if he had ever talked to Howe before the Dec. 13 search warrant was executed at the house she shared with Viefhaus. Rickel said he had. The prosecution objected; a sidebar was held, and the subsequent questioning was on another topic, indicating that the objection had been sustained.

On June 30, Rickel testified during an evidentiary hearing in the case that sometime in the spring of 1996, he had talked to Howe because "we were interested to see if there might be any further information we could gather about activities involving people at Elohim City who may have been connected with the bombing."

Rickel also testified in June that Howe's concern about her identity as an informant being leaked to the defense teams in the Oklahoma City bombing case was probably a topic that he discussed with Howe in that 1996 conversation. ATF agent Angela Graham testified in April that Howe's identity as an informant was disclosed in March 1996 by the FBI and that she contacted Howe to offer protection as "damage control."

The prosecution acknowledges that Howe was an informant but claims that her tenure with the ATF ran from August 1994 through March 1995, when she was deactivated for "instability." Prosecutors say Howe did take one trip to Elohim City after the

bombing, at her request, but her trip yielded no useful information and she was never used as an informant after mid-1995.

Howe's defense claims that she was an informant for the ATF exclusively from August 1994 until the date of the bombing. The defense claims that she then began working for both the ATF and the FBI. Brewster maintains that if Howe was deactivated in March 1995 she was never told about it and that her informant duties continued until the day of the indictment on March 11, 1997.

If that version of the facts is true, then Howe's acting talents were on display in a series of tapes played by the prosecution Tuesday. The alleged "bomb threat" tape of Dec. 8 contains only Viefhaus' voice, but the U.S. Attorney's Office played 18 other tapes for the jury Tuesday that apparently were played at various times in the fall of 1996 on the Aryan Intelligence Network hotline that emanated from the house Howe and Viefhaus shared.

Nine of these tapes featured a woman's voice that Rickel said was Howe's. Assistant U.S. Attorney Neal Kirkpatrick said during his opening argument that the "progression" of the tapes showed that the Dec. 8 Viefhaus message was a true threat. On the other hand, Bryant encouraged the jury to keep its collective "eye on the ball" and not be swept away in the prosecution's attempt to "smear" his client.

The 19 tapes played for the jury were a mixture of innocuous comments (the woman Rickel said was Howe encouraged listeners to keep track of legislation as it is considered in Washington, encouraged people to attend the local Oktoberfest festival and spoke out against the 1996 dance sensation known as the Macarena) and hateful, often racist, observations.

While free of racial epithets and slurs (except one which was a quote) the speakers blasted the following: blacks, Jews, Muslims, homosexuals, President Bill Clinton, Attorney General Janet Reno, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, the federal government, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the United Nations, a Broken Arrow school administrator who cracked down on skinheads, and even the Confederacy (the laziness of Southerners led to slavery in the first place, according to a message apparently recorded by Viefhaus.)

The recordings also encouraged listeners to arm themselves in anticipation of a racial holy war that was projected to start sometime in 1997 and repeatedly glorified Adolf Hitler. A winner of a quiz on the hot line apparently was sent a videotape of "Triumph of the Will," a 1935 German film that movie critic Leonard Maltin refers to in his "Movie and Video Guide" as an "infamous" documentary that is "rightly regarded as the greatest propaganda film of all time."